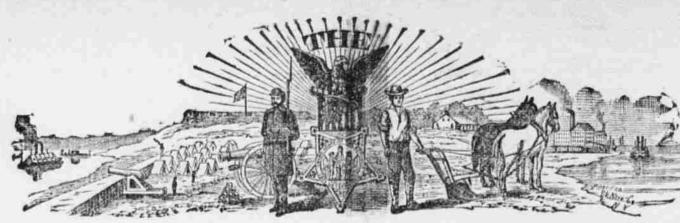
## National



Urillute.

ESTABLISHED 1877-NEW SERIES.

WASHINGTON, D. C., THURSDAY, MAY 15, 1890.

IX-NO. 41-WHOLE NO. 457

The Experiences of the Blue Jay Mess

JOB IN JEOPARDY.

"We Enlisted to Kill Rebels-Not to Drill.

WARDELL DROPS A PEG.

Tale of the Trousers, or the · Fate of a Swell."

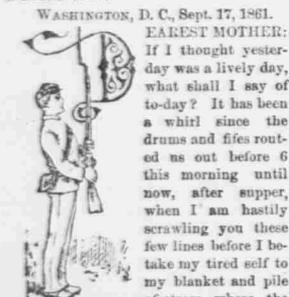
BY JOHN M'ELROY, Author of "Andersonville: a Story of Southern Prisons"; "A File of Infantrymen"; "The Red Acorn"; "Reminiscences of an Army Mule,"

[corynicht, 1800]

LETTER VIL

TIGHTENING THE BONDS OF DISCI-PLINE.

THE NEW COLONEL BEGINS THE WORK OF CONVERTING THE RAW MATERIAL INTO SOLDIESS-EVERYBODY BROUGHT UP WITH A BOUND TURN.



If I thought yesterday was a lively day, what shall I say of to-day? It has been a whirl since the drums and fifes routed as out before 6 this morning until now, after supper, when I am hastily scrawling you these few lines before I betake my tired self to my blanket and pile of straw, where the rest of the boys are

already stretched, and some of them snoring. The new Colonel has taken hold, and such a hold! In full uniform, with coat buttoned to the chin, hands in white gloves, well- ing obedience, as I have read is the habit of blacked boots, and wearing a sword and pirate Captains and banditti chiefs. eash, he startled us by putting in an appearthe early morning roll-call. At once he depressed by the prospect. began storming at Lieut, Ezra Grimsted, who any pretext.

"What do you mean, sir, by coming out men to straggle into line, and only half- too bad we'il-" dressed? Make every man of them be in line, fully dressed, before the drums quit other half without their caps! This is to mutiny." simply intolerable! If anything like it occurs again, I shall punish the whole com- confess I felt uncomfortable. pany severely. Here, you sir, (to Job Carta way to move you, and that lively."

increasing his pace a particle; "I'm coming iss all." as fast as I can."

quarters after breakfast. I'll teach him a can expect, especially from those who know singletree that lay near.



WITH PICK AND SHOVEL. general injunctions to everybody as to the way things must be done in the future, the Colonel strode off, followed by the Adjutant. to the other companies, where we could hear his voice, stern and high, rasping one after

another for his shortcomings. Gloom settled down upon us like a headache as we broke ranks and went to breakfast. Sickening dread of what this merciless military despot might do to Job gripped our hearts, and appeared in our eyes as we raised them furtively from our coffee and boiled potatoes and stele glances-so that

Job would not see us-at one another. All the terrible military punishments that I had ever heard of thronged into my mind. In one of our books at home there is an ac- than the rest of us, count of an officer of Wellington's in the Peninsula flogging men nearly to death for and military. coming on parade with their shoes not properly blacked, and shooting them for asked Burt. things not much worse. I felt that our Colonel was quite capable of doing just that to headquarters," answered Burt, saluting. thing, and that he might want to do it at the outset, so as to awe us into enquestion- | Very well. Give his name to the Sergeant- | to know.

## LEVEE SYSTEM.



Shall Selfish John Bull and his hired men be allowed to break it down, and deluge our prosperous land with the pauperism of the World?

Lan, Herman and Quin were impressed quarters" ance with the Adjutant, similarly uniformed, just as I was, but Job carried himself with as we were getting deliberately into line for his usual bravado, and seemed only a little of nicely-uniformed, well-drilled men, with

had been restored to command of the com- gedly. "I can stand it, I guess. He can't through my heart. Those are Regulars. pany, after a sharp lecture on the delin- more'n kill me, anyhow, and I made up my | That's the firing-squad I have read so much | quency of absenting himself from it under | mind to stand a good deal of killing when I | about, I thought. The next moment Burt |

before your men with your coat unbuttoned pulsively, "an' we'll stand by ye till the edge of the parade-ground, but halted there and no sword on? Why do you allow your | ind. If that ould tyrant attempts anything | and turned around to watch what was

"Be careful, Quin," said Lan warningly. blazes! half of them are barefoot, and the ould despot goes too far, Oi, for wan, am ready a word that he said.

"Mutiny's an awful ugly wort," said wright, who was coming out of the shed Herman Dinkelspiel, arresting his tincup of each picked up one of the tools. wery deliberately, and fastening his clothes | coffee on its way to his mouth, and speak-"Keep cool; don't get into a pucker- Quin. I vill ke up mit Job undt stay mit and take Job away from them?"

"No, boys," said Job, with heroic resigna- kets," said Herman. A bad look flashed into the Colonel's eyes, | tion; "Pil not allow any of you to be mixed | "Be jabers, let's git clubs. Oi can handle me no better than you do; but I can't allow stiff upper-lip."

> appeared about this time, and addressed and take two armed guards and conduct to dig. Cartwright to headquarters."

"That's true. But we'll have to get arms somewhere. It'll never do to go to headquarters without them,"

Finally Burt succeeded in borrowing a Sergeant's sword and a couple of old muskets from another regiment.

"Tremmel," he said, as he buckled on the sword, "you and Green pick up those guns and come along as guards."

Lan paled and I shivered. "Might we have to act as poor Job's executioners?" was the thought that flashed through both our minds. "We can't shoot him with these guns any way," I whispered to Lan. "See, neither of

them has a hammer." Lan looked as much relieved as I felt.

Lan and I placed ourselves on either side | for insubordination this morning." of Job, Burt marched in front, while Herman, Quin, Cad and Web, with a large squad of other sympathizers, brought up the rear. It was as mournful a looking crowd as you ever saw at a country funeral.

quarters, squads appearing as doleful as ours came up from the other companies, bringing done more than anybody else, most of the similar offenders. We all stood around in chaff was directed against me, and I felt as he came up, and said: solemn silence, and for the first time since I have known him nothing comical seemed to occur to Quin Bohannon to say or do. In fact, he looked, if anything, more miserable in the world, and we liked him from the

"Whom have you here, Sergeant?" he us what he did not know himself,

"A man that the Colonel ordered brought

Major there, turn him over to that guard,

We noticed now for the first time a squad | then, saluting Ezra, announced: bright, shining muskets, and bayonets fixed, "Let him do his blamedest," said he dog- who had marched up near us. A pang shot had faced us about and was marching us "We'll all go up wid ye," said Quin im- back. We did not go any farther than the

"Oi'll not be careful! Oi can't die but of his quarters in full uniform, with his turned to the left, and then discovering his beating. Get into line there men, at once; once, and Oi can't die better than standing sword on. He began talking to Job and the blunder, whirled back. Quin turned to the get into line, there! Step out lively! Blue up for the roights av man. Oi say if that rest very earnestly, but we could not catch | left and Herman to the right. Both thought

"He's sentencing them," I said to Lan. again bringing themselves face-to-face. Lan turned as white as a sheet, and I | "Isn't this just awful." Presently he pointed to a pile of picks and shovels and gave an

"Good heavens," I said, "he's going to

off any kind against dose Rekklers mit mus-

but he merely said, very coldly, "Put that up in my trouble. I thank you very much a shillelah better'n than thim divils can their man under arrest, and send him to my for your friendship, which is more than I guns," exclaimed Quin, picking up a broken "Can't we all go up to the Colonel and

Giving a few sharp words to Burt Conners | you to suffer for me. It's all my own fault, | beg for Job's life ?" I asked, excitedly. "Let's about his method of calling the roll, and I must take the consequences. You'll offer to do anything, to submit to anything, see that I'll take whatever comes with a | if he will only pardon Job. I am sure that he will never offend again. Goodness! let's "Serg't Conners," said Ezra Grimsted, who do something. I can't stand here idle!"

Job and the others were taken by the himself to Burt, "put on your side-arms guard to a little knoll, into which they began

"But, Lieutenant, I haven't any sword, groaned, "don't Job show some spirit and and there are no guns for the guard. You try to get away? I'd a great deal rather be rear rank." know we haven't drawn any arms at all, shot trying to get away than meekly help my own death."

Just then Ezra Grimsted came up and said

"Sergeant, fall the company in at once for How the words jarred on me! Drill! The idea of drilling when Job was about to die!

"O, Lieutenant," I begged, "can't we put off the drill a little while? We want to see what's going to happen to Job Cartwright."

burst into a laugh. "Nothing's going to happen to him, unless it be blistered hands and a tired back. The Colonel's ordered him and the others to dig down that knoll, so as Can you imagine a more disgusted and

disappointed lot of fellows than we were? for being such infernal fools, and then the absurdity of the thing appeared, and we As we halted in front of the Colonel's began making fun and mimicking each other's actions and words. As I had said and thoroughly ashamed.

Such a time as we had drilling! Ezra Grimsted is one of the nicest fellows

first-he is so gentle and polite. But he The Adjutant came out, very grave, stiff hardly knows the A B C's of drill, and he confessed frankly that he was trying to teach

Burt knows something more, but there is this difference between the two: Burt as- into dead soberness as he noted the stern look sumes to know much more than he really on the Colonel's face. "Ah, yes, I remember-for punishment, does, while Ezra knows more than he seems

Burt got us into a fairly-straight line- | deceingly surprised to find you absent from and take the rest of your men back to their | two deep-after an enormous amount of | your company." "I was not really absent," Capt, Wardell ex-"front "-ing and "right-dressing "-ing, and plained, "merely in the city; and I have kept

> "Lieutenant, the company is formed." I could see Ezra's clear, olive-skinned face get red away down to the roots of his hair with embarrassment. He hesitated a minute, and then shouted:

We all straightened up stiffly, as we thought we were expected to do.

"Draw your sword, Lieutenant."

"O, yes, I forgot," said Ezra, fumbling around for that weapon. "Right face," he commanded. Such a jum-Presently we saw the Colonel come out | ble as we got into. About every other boy

they had done wrong, and both whirled around Bad luck to yez-turn the other way," said

Quin; "didn't yez hear the orther?" "I'm right-it's you dot's wrong," asserted order. Job and the others went over and Herman; "turn around agin-you're preaking

Bedad Oi'm not," insisted Quin, catching

hold of Herman's shoulders and trying to turn as he came, stir your stumps, sir, or I'll find ing with great deliberation; "I wouldn't make them dig their own graves. Can't him around by main force, making a struggle talk it out loud where folks gan hear you, anything be done? Can't we rush up there that threw the whole line into worse confusion. Ezra looked humiliated and sad at the result of his first order. "Hold on boys," he said; Emitch!" answered Job, surlily, and without him, undt do ass de rest of you does. Dat | "Ve vouldn't haf any show mitout arms | "get back as you were, and let us try that over again. All of you think which is your right hand, and which your left, and turn to the

right at the order." "Lieutenant," suggested Burt, "at the command 'right face' we ought to double up into fours when we face to the right.'

"Yes, that's so," assented Ezra. "I may as well own up to the truth, boys. I haven't had a chance to learn the drilt. If you'll only be patient with me I'll be all right in a few days, for I'll work very hard. Sergeant, do you know how the movement is performed?"

"As I understand it," answered Burt, with sheep, while you have gone on looking out to must stand at "attention," with our little finmuch show of modesty, "it's this way: Both | have as pleasant a time as possible, without a | gers precisely at the seams of our pantaloons, ranks count two's. At the command of 'right | thought for their comfort or their developface' No. 1 in the front rank faces to the right | ment into soldiers. Now, your place is with and stands fast; No. 1 in the rear rank faces to | them, day and night, looking out constantly the right and takes a side step; No. 2 in the for their comfort, discipline and instruction. front rank faces to the right and takes an ob- you retain your commission in this regiment, I lique step as he does so, which places him be- shall expect you to be with them all the time, "Why in the name of all that's manly," I | tween the two No. I's, and No. 2 in the rear | to drill them industriously, and to make yourrank takes a side step as he faces to the right, | self and them real soldiers in the shortest poswhich places him on the right of No. 1 of the sible time, so as to be of genuine service to the

We all looked at Burt in admiration. We did not dream that he knew so much. "Repeat that again, so that the whole company may fully understand," said Ezra,

seemed doubtful whether he could get through also. You can go to your quarters now, but as successfully as before. "I'll just read it to bear in mind what I have said you from the book," he said, and made a dive the movement.

course of a couple of hours of hard struggling got it tolerably well, except Herman and Quin, | man's head," supplemented Vogelsong. "1'll "Happen to Job!" he repeated in amaze- they should go to the right, and vice versa, and that he's not so big as he thinks himself." ment; and then seeing our anxious faces, he in standing still when they should step out, and

"Bad cess to the jig-re-jiggin," grumbled Quin. "Fwat's the good av it all, Oi'd like to know? Oi did not enlist to learn dancin', so | Colonel's manner that I could scarcely keep Oi didn't. All that they nade to do is to tell us from smiling. "You should be with your comto level the parade-ground, as a punishment divil cares whether Oi go on this side of Dutchy or that?"

We had just broken ranks for dinner, when we saw Capt. Wardell and Lieut. Vogelsong coming leisurely across the parade-ground, smoking | the conversation between the Colonel and us." At first we snapt spitefully at one another | eigars and fanning themselves with palm-leaf fans. They wore straw hats and white duck coats and vests, and seemed to be having just | body in the company. That's my order, and as pleasant a time as if there was no war or | you know that in the army the punishment rumors of war in the land.

"Gentlemen, the Colonel desires to see you

at his quarters immediately." At the same time Ezra Grimsted said to me : "Tremmel, go up to headquarters, please, and ask the Adjutant for those blank forms he promised to furnish me." I got there just as Capt. Wardell and Lieut,

Vogelsong did. "Which of you gentlemen is Capt, Wardell?" inquired the Colonel. That gentleman indicated his personality by a bow and an engaging smile, which faded

"I am-which you perhaps may not know

a general oversight of my company." "Absurd, preposterous!" said the Colonel, im-Capt. Wardell grew very red in the face. "I have been with my company every day. I have seen that the men were sheltered and

had plenty to eat, and-"Fudge, stuff!" interrupted the Colonel, with angry impatience. Capt, Wardell became wrathy.

'Excuse me," he said, with dignity; "I am not in the habit of being spoken to in this "You will get into the habit," roared the



TAKE THIS SCOUNDREL TO THE GUARD-

HOUSE," your duties. You have brought your company here and unloaded your men like a flock of country. For this I shall hold you strictly ac- the other day, as we broke ranks after a stiff countable-and you too, Mr. ---, your name has escaped me.'

'Vogelsong," answered that gentleman, "Ah, yes, Vogelsong. Well, Mr. Vogelsong, Burt started, but hitched a little, and it | what I have said to your Captain applies to you

" Pompous old bully," muttered the Captain for his quarters, returning with a copy of the | to Vogelsong, as they moved away. "Inflated Tacties, from which he read the directions for | with his sudden promotion from a Captainey, he thinks we all ought to grovel at his feet. We all set to work to learn it, and in the | I'll see whether he owns us body and soul." "Strange how a little authority swells a who would persist in stepping to the left when | undertake to show him before a month's out,

> stood that I had heard all, "What are you doing here, Tremmel?" asked Wardell, with such an imitation of the pany, not hanging around headquarters." "Lieut, Grimsted sent me up here for blanks that the Adjutant promised him," I replied.

They both caught eight of me, and under-

severely, "I presume you heard something of "Well, on no account repeat any of it to any for disobedience of orders is very severe. If

"Look here, Tremmel," said Wardell, very

Before they reached us the Colonel came out | you have anything to say, let it be that the to the front of his quarters, looked at them | Colonel called us to headquarters and complihard, and dispatched an Orderly, who saluted | mented us on the fine appearance of the com-"I shall do nothing of the kind," I answered, angry that he should counsel me to tell a lie.

"What do you mean, sir?" the Captain asked, threateningly. "I mean that I shall obey your order not to say anything about the conversation I overheard, for that is an order that you have a right to make, but I shall not tell a lie, order or no order."

"Well, sir, see that you say nothing at all about it, or it will be very much the worse for you. Go to your quarters now." With which he passed on, leaving me much hurt and very angry. I have always felt that there was a good deal of vanity and selfishness in Capt.
Wardell, in spite of his showy good-fellowship, but I did not think he would act so mean.

regiment of soldiers. Revenue sounds before it been thrown by a section to the attempted advances in support of the attempted advances of the rebel cavalry. He had secured a position for his command behind a fence, within 60 yards of -Col. Satterlee, commanding this regiment. Wardell, in spite of his showy good-fellowship, Upon assuming command yesterday I was ex- but I did not think he would act so mean,

However, I am learning something ... the longer I live, and I seem to be living a little

longer every day.

We spent the afternoon trying to master the intricacies of "right face," and got along a little better than in the morning-all of us but Quin and Herman, whose perverseness reminded me of the way I used to annoy you, dear mother, when I was little, by putting out my left hand instead of my right to shake hands with visitors.

"It's all the fault of me Oirish fate," said Quin, good-humoredly, when Ezra's patience was about exhausted. "Me head's all roight. It's been naturalized and it's American, and I undershtand the orders perfickly. But me fate are still Oirish, and they're contrary divils, bad cess to 'em, and they kape turning to the left,

when they should turn to the reight." At supper-time Job Cartwright came in, hot, sullen, tired, and with blistered hands, from his work on the parade-ground. He had thrown down his mattock once during the day, and refused to work any more until he had rested. He wanted to settle the matter with the guard with their fists, but the guard declined any diversion of that kind until he should be off duty, and had stabbed him slightly with his bayonet. Job vowed he would get even with him and the Colonel before he was much older. He sat around sullenly, snapping at everbody who spoke to him, until after roll-call, when he crawled off to bed beside Quin, grumbling at him for not keeping on his own side, to which Quin replied good-humoredly.

Good-night, mother, I think of you constantly, and wonder how you are getting along.

BUSY DAYS.

HARD WORK MAKING REGULARS OF THE BOYS-A MISHAP ON DRESS-PARADE.

WASHINGTON, D. C., Sept. 30, 1861. DEAREST MOTHER: "Ten t'ousant teffels," groaned Herman Dinkenspiel, as we sat around a little fire this evening, taking the first rest that we have been allowed to since the drums sounded the reveille at a wretchedly early hour

this morning. "'Tired' is no name for it," murmured Lan Green. "I used to like to hear the music of fifes and drums. Now it mems to me that They thump and clatter and screech from daylight till bedtime, and every time they go off it means some new kind of hard work for us. Great grief! how I would like to be back in Cohosh to-morrow, to go to my old class in Sunday-school and hear he little children all

" There is a happy land-

It'd beat all the fifes that ever were bored out,

"I like a man who gives his whole mind to his business," grumbled Job Cartwright; "but this Kurnel suits me catirely too well. His this revised map exhibits considerable differwhole idee is to grind us down into a lot o' show-off soldiers, and I don't go a cent on it, Our object in comin' down here was to fight down, so far as the cavalry and the main the rebels, and we ought to be set to work at it, Army of the Potomac are concerned, the the quicker the better. All this putting our fingers down to the seams of our pantaloons, and turnin' our toes out at an angle o' 45 degrees, drawin' our chests in and castin' our eyes 15 to locate with accuracy, are not materially paces in front of us is dumbed tomfoolery. Nothin' under the shinin' heavens but dumbed tomfoolery. Does anyhody s'pose that when we go out there into Virginny the rebs won't let themselves be killed unless we take the p'sishi'n of a soldier, and stand with our eyes just 15 paces in front of us, an' our toes turned out to an angle o' 45 degrees? Not much, Mary Ann. It'll be a tussle for blood, and the best man will git there fust, no matter whether he gits there in correct milingtary style or not. If the Kurnel knows any little tricks that'll help me git onto a rebel's meathouse before he kin git onto mine, I'd like to have him show 'em to me. But I'm sick of this jim-

crack business, that don't mean nothing but "Well," said Quin Bohannon, "Oi don't know but Oi'd as lave to be here, as droiving a 'bus in Cohosh. It's hard wurruk, Oi know, but so's 'bus drivin' hard wurruk, an' this is the more jintilmanlike-more looke what the Bohannons've been used to. They've always been jintilmen an' sojers, an' Oi'd ruther be a jintilman an' a sojer than drive a 'bus. Oi'm

contint, Oi am." Job came near expressing the sentiments of cording to the precise letter of the Army Reguthere is no sin like disobedience to the most triffing rule. All day long, from the first tap of the reveille drums until after the three measured thumps on the big bass drum order 'lights out," he is rampaging about camp, ordering, commanding, drilling, scolding, punishing, explaining, criticizing, condemning, and, very rarely, praising. Every habit and way that we boys have, from our manner of standing to the way we part our hair, seems to be wrong, contrary to Regulations, and most be changed immediately, under pain of severe punishment. We must all take a step just 28 inches long, and 60 of them to the minute, chests thrown out, stomachs drawn in, heels close together, toes turned out, eyes resting on the ground 15 paces in front, and when we start to walk it must be with the left foot first; and so on, through a world of minute, that would fill my letter if I attempted to write it. We get so much of this that sometimes we can-

not resist the temptation to poke fun at it. "Tracy, me b'y," called out Quin Bohannon



READY FOR THE ENEMY. dose of the Tactics, "Herman here an' me's just made a bet. He says that the Riggylations order that we draw our breath in one time and two motions, and Oi say it's three. Which is

roight? Git the book, there's a darlint, and Job suddenly dropped his knife and fork while we were at dinner to-day, and in a tone of alarm inquired of Birt Conners:

"Sergeant, I'm afcard I've made a great mistake. Does the Reggerlations say that a man impriner savers, officers greeting each other as only must eat his pork before his beans or his beans before his pork, or both together? I've clean forgot, and like as not have gone on histin' in my grub contrary to rule, and I'll have to go to the guard-house for it."

But I started to tell you about the Colonel, and his method of working over this campmeeting of vivacious young Americans into a regiment of soldiers. Reveille sounds before it

Observant Comrades Suggest Improvements in the Cannoneer's Map.

PRIMA-FACIE EVIDENCE

The Careful Testimony of Men Who were There.

OF HISTORY,

Brigade Commanders, Staff Officers and the Signal Corps.

BY PRIVATE BUELL



UT of a great number of letters commenting on my description of the surrender at Appomattox and "map" of the ground and positions of the troops at or about the time of the surrender, I have selected as many as THE NATIONAL TRI-BUNE can find room for, and publish them herewith, accompanied with a map revised in accordance

tions. It will be remembered that I offered the original 'map" as an approximate delineation of positions only, and invited corrections from any and all comrades qualified to make them. Having carefully studied the statements which this invitation has evoked, I present herewith a revised map, which, in and all the drums that ever stretched sheep- the absence of an official survey and location by the War Department, I consider fairly accurate. It will be observed that while ences from the positions originally laid stations of the Divisions of the Fifth and Twenty-fourth Corps, which alone I pretend

I present first a letter from Brig.-Gen. Thomas M. Harris, commanding the West Virginia Brigade, of Turner's Division,

Twenty-fourth Corps. Gen. Harris says: RITCHIE COURTHOUSE, W. VA., May 9, 1890. DEAR SIE: I have been very much interested in reading Private Buci's account of the surrender of Gen. Lee at Appemattox; and in scanning his topographical map of the field occupied by our roops, when, after forced marches for seven days, from Petersburg to Appointtox, Gen. Grant had thrown his army, like a cordon, around the remnant of Gen. Lee's army at Appointatiox. I write this because I was in command of the First Brigade of Turner's Division, composed of the 10th, ith and loth W. Va.; the W. Va. Mountaine whose prowess and good soldierly qualities he so enthusiastically commemorates, and because I can render some assistance in filling out that map by correctly locating Gen. Foster's command. He has very correctly located Gen. Turner's Division. On the day preceding the surrender, we had marched 30 miles, after forced marches during the six preceding days, and reached Appomattox Station about li o'oelock at night, where we halted dan had very eleverly captured the train sent from Lynchburg loaded with supplies for Gen. Lee's all of us. The new Colonel is a terror. He army, and our boys had an abundant supply of seems possessed with the idea that the whole with which to regale themselves after their hard nicely-cured bacon, hams, and many other things, duty of man is to stand, move and act ac- day's work. I had orders to have my command in

ine, and ready to march at 3 o'clock in the moralations and Hardee's Infantry Tactics, and that | ing. Knowing the condition of my men to be very nearly that of PHYSICAL EXHAUSTION. and that it would be very difficult to arouse them from the profound slumber in which they would be wrapped at that early hour, I did not sleep at all, but sat up and waited for 230 o'clock, at which time I awakened the members of my staff with much difficulty, and sent them to the regimental commanders, with orders to get their commands in line as quickly as possible. So completely overcome with fatigue, and so sound asleep were both officers and men, that it took fully two hours to get this order executed. About 6 o'clock on the morning of the surrender we were ready, and resumed the march. After marching about a mile we halted in an old field, and made coffee to refresh the men. We were marching in a northeriy, or west of north direction, according to my present recollection, and directly on a line from the

> Private Buel The men had scarcely swallowed their cup of office when we got an order to reform and advance ouble-quick to the front. Gen. Sheridan had cavalry holding the woods in our froat, and Gen. Lee's advance had commenced to shell the woods, whilst his cavalry was making an effort to open up the road, not knowing that they were to be so soon opposed by a line of infantry. They had captured some of our cavalry, and hence Sheridan's impatience to have the infantry brought up. We were in line in an almost meredibly short time, and comnenced our march by the right flank at a doublequiak. This we kept up for more than a mile, in the gallant style described by Private Buck. If ever an officer was proud of his command it was your correspondent on that morning. Gen. Foster's Division. was in advance, and took its position across the foster was detailed on the commission that tried he conspirators to the assassmation of President Lincoln, as was also your correspondent, and I feel sure that he told me that this was the position occopied by his division. I am not sure whether he made this position in advance of us, or whether he passed us after we had gotten our place in the line. and so extended our line. At all events, I had orders to halt about 100 or 200 yards short of the Lynchburg road, and then Gen. Foster's Division came in to fill up the space between my command As I have said, we were marching by the right flank at a double quick when halted, and having

attained a position IN FRONT OF LEE'S ARMY. we faced by the rear rank to advance toward the enemy. This threw Gen. Foster on my right, which, by this manuver, now became my Just as we haited and faced to the rear, we found ourselves in range of a rebel battery, the shells from which, bursting in the vicinity of my line, were doing us some to jury. I ordered Capt. James A. Jarbo, of Co. 1, 10th W. Va., but now in command of two companies armed with Spencer rifles, acting as a pioneer corps, to advance at a double-quick and silence the battery. I followed with my line at a quick step. We had to march through a thick woods, and had not gone more than 100 yards when we heard Capt. Jarbo's rattling fire, and the battery was silenced at once. Before getting through the woods, which was perhaps 200 or 300

yards wide, I met a staff officer of Gen. Ord's with

orders to have my men cease firing, as there was a

flag of truce out. We then completed our march brough the woods rapidly, and with little regard Having passed through this strip of woods, the open country about Appointation Courthouse was sefore us. And such a scene! Our men were wild with excitement, throwing up their caps, brandishmen could do who realized that the happy days of peace had come again, after a four years' struggle attended by many disappointments, and many disasters and discouragements to the cause of the Union; but through all of which patriotic and loyal hearts had never hesitated nor doubted as to our final triumph. After contemplating this cene for a few minutes, I turned my attention to Capt. Jaroo. I found that the shells which annoyed me on halting to form by the rear rank, had been thrown by a section of a battery which had